

REMARKS

The Examiner has restricted the claims in the case to Group I (claims 1-10, 19, 21-22 and 24-28); Group II (claims 11, and 24-26); Group III (claims 13-18 and 24-26); and Group IV (claim 23).

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement and request reconsideration. The division of claims described above is not unduly burdensome. Nonetheless, in order to be fully responsive, Applicant has provisionally elected, with traverse, Group I as defined by claims 1-10, 19, 21-22 and 24-28. By this election, applicants do not admit, nor do applicants waive the right to argue against at a later date, the Examiner's statement that the groups of inventions are patentably distinct. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present the claims of Groups II-IV, or other claims in one or more divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part applications at a later date.

PATENT APPLICATION
Application No. 10/709,831
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CONCLUSION

No fee is believed to be due for the filing of this response. Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this submission to Deposit Account No. 50-0436.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Miller', written over a horizontal line.

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